



Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

Examiner Signature	Dawson	Date Considered	7.27.04
-----------------------	--------	--------------------	---------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard St.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

*Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. *Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450



ELECTRONIC INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

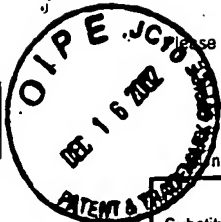
Electronic Version v18

Stylesheet Version v18.0

Title of Invention	BARBED SUTURE IN COMBINATION WITH SURGICAL NEEDLE						
<p>Application Number: 10/065278</p> <p>Confirmation Number: 5691</p> <p>First Named Applicant: Jeffrey Leung</p> <p>Attorney Docket Number: 013341 21</p> <p>Art Unit: 3731</p> <p>Search string: (4950285 or 5084063 or 5102421 or 5141520 or 5224946 or 5341922 or 5372146 or 5411523 or 5500000 or 5520691 or 5601557 or 4316469 or 4069825 or 5683417 or 5984933 or 6083244).pn.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">RECEIVED JUL 14 2003 TECHNOLOGY CENTER 6370</p>							
US Patent Documents							
Note: Applicant is not required to submit a paper copy of cited US Patent Documents							
init	Cite.No.	Patent No.	Date	Patentee	Kind	Class	Subclass
Leung	1	4950285	1990-08-21	Wilk			
	2	5084063	1992-01-28	Korthoff			
	3	5102421	1992-04-07	Anspach, Jr.			
	4	5141520	1992-08-25	Goble et al.			
	5	5224946	1993-07-06	Hayhurst et al.			
	6	5341922	1994-08-30	Cerwin et al.			
	7	5372146	1994-12-13	Branch			
	8	5411523	1995-05-02	Goble			
	9	5500000	1996-03-19	Feagin et al.			
	10	5520691	1996-05-28	Branch			
	11	5601557	1996-12-17	Hayhurst			
	12	4316469	1982-04-23	Kapitanov			
	13	4069825	1978-01-24	Akiyama			
	14	5683417	1997-11-04	Cooper			
	15	5984933	1999-11-16	Yoon			
	16	6083244	2000-07-04	Lubbers et al.			

Signature

Examiner Name	Date
Dawson	7.22.04



Please type a plus sign(+) inside this box →



PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)		Complete if Known	
		Application Number	10/065,278
		Filing Date	September 30, 2002
		First Named Inventor	Jeffrey C. Leung
		Group Art Unit	3731
		Examiner Name	
Sheet 1 of 4	Attorney Docket Number	013341-000021	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Documents		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, columns, lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
67	A	709,392		Brown	09/16/1902	else
	B	733,723		Lukens et al.	07/14/1903	
	C	789,401		Acheson	05/09/1905	
	D	816,026		Meier	03/27/1906	
	E	1,142,510		Engle	06/08/1915	
	F	1,321,011		Cottis	11/04/1919	
	G	1,728,316		Von Wachenfeldt	09/17/1929	
	H	1,886,721		O'Brien	11/08/1932	
	I	2,201,610		Dawson, Jr.	05/21/1940	
	J	2,232,142		Schumann	02/18/1941	
	K	2,254,620		Miller	09/02/1941	
	L	2,421,193		Gardner	05/27/1947	
	M	2,472,009		Gardner	05/31/1949	
	N	2,684,070		Kelsey	07/20/1954	
	O	2,779,083		Eaton	01/29/1957	
	P	2,817,339		Sullivan	12/24/1957	
	Q	2,910,067		White	10/27/1959	
	R	2,988,028		Alcamo	06/13/1961	
	S	3,068,869		Shelden et al.	12/18/1962	
	T	3,068,870		Levin	12/18/1962	
	U	3,123,077		Alcamo	03/03/1964	
	V	3,166,072		Sullivan, Jr.	01/19/1965	
	W	3,209,754		Brown	10/05/1965	
	X	3,214,810		Mathison	11/02/1965	
	Y	3,221,746		Noble	12/07/1965	
	Z	3,234,636		Brown	02/15/1966	
	AA	3,273,562		Brown	09/20/1966	
	AB	3,352,191		Crawford	11/14/1967	
	AC	3,378,010		Codling et al.	04/16/1968	
	AD	3,385,299		LeRoy	05/28/1968	
	AE	3,494,006		Brumlik	02/10/1970	
	AF	3,525,340		Gilbert	08/25/1970	
	AG	3,527,223		Shein	09/08/1970	
	AH	3,586,002		Wood	06/22/1971	
	AI	3,608,095		Barry	09/28/1971	

Examiner Signature	<i>Dawn</i>	Date Considered	7.22.04
-----------------------	-------------	--------------------	---------

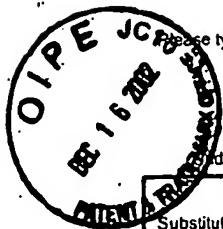
*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard SL3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

DUR1331117_1

RECEIVED
DEC 17 2002
TC 3700 MAIL ROOM



Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box →

PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

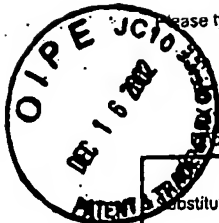
Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)				Application Number	10/065,278
				Filing Date	September 30, 2002
				First Named Inventor	Jeffrey C. Leung
				Group Art Unit	3731
				Examiner Name	
Sheet	2	of	4	Attorney Docket Number	013341-000021
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Documents	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, columns, lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
up	AJ	3,608,539	Miller	09/28/1971	
	AK	3,683,926	Suzuki	08/15/1972	
	AL	3,716,058	Tanner, Jr.	02/13/1973	
	AM	3,825,010	McDonald	07/23/1974	
	AN	3,981,307	Borysko	09/21/1976	
	AO	4,073,298	LeRoy	02/14/1978	
	AP	4,259,959	Walker	04/07/1981	
	AQ	4,317,451	Cerwin et al.	03/02/1982	
	AR	4,428,376	Mericle	01/31/1984	
	AS	4,430,998	Harvey et al.	02/14/1984	
	AT	4,434,796	Karapetian et al.	03/06/1984	
	AU	4,454,875	Pratt et al.	06/19/1984	
	AV	4,467,805	Fukuda	08/28/1984	
	AW	4,505,274	Speelman	03/19/1985	
	AX	4,510,934	Batra	04/16/1985	
	AY	4,531,522	Bedi et al.	07/30/1985	
	AZ	4,548,202	Duncan	10/22/1985	
	BA	4,610,251	Kumar	09/09/1986	
	BB	4,635,637	Schreiber	01/13/1987	
	BC	4,637,380	Orejola	01/20/1987	
	BD	4,653,486	Coker	03/31/1987	
	BE	4,669,473	Richards et al.	06/02/1987	
	BF	4,676,245	Fukuda	06/30/1987	
	BG	4,719,917	Barrows et al.	01/19/1988	
	BH	4,776,337	B	Palmar	12/05/2000
	BI	4,841,960	Garner	06/27/1989	
	BJ	4,873,976	Schreiber	10/17/1989	
	BK	4,887,601	Richards	12/19/1989	
	BL	4,976,715	Bays et al.	12/11/1990	
	BM	4,994,073	Green	02/19/1991	
	BN	4,997,439	Chen	03/05/1991	
	BO	5,002,562	Oberlander	03/26/1991	
	BP	5,007,921	Brown	04/16/1991	
	BQ	5,026,390	Brown	06/25/1991	
	BR	5,047,047	Yoon	09/10/1991	

Examiner Signature	<i>Dawn</i>	Date Considered	7.22.04
-----------------------	-------------	--------------------	---------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard St.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.



Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box →

PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

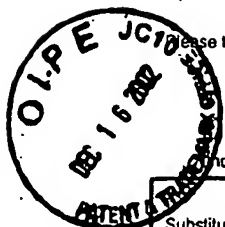
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT				Complete If Known	
(use as many sheets as necessary)				Application Number	10/065,278
				Filing Date	September 30, 2002
				First Named Inventor	Jeffrey C. Leung
				Group Art Unit	3731
				Examiner Name	
Sheet	3	of	4	Attorney Docket Number	013341-000021
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Documents	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, columns, lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
62	BS	5,053,047	Yoon	10/01/1991	u/s
	BT	5,084,063	Korthoff	01/28/1992	
	BU	5,102,418	Granger et al.	04/07/1992	
	BV	5,123,911	Granger et al.	06/23/1992	
	BW	5,123,913	Wilk et al.	06/23/1992	
	BX	5,192,302	Kensey et al.	03/09/1993	
	BY	5,207,694	Broome	05/04/1993	
	BZ	5,222,976	Yoon	06/29/1993	
	CA	5,246,441	Ross et al.	09/21/1993	
	CB	5,258,013	Granger et al.	11/02/1993	
	CC	5,269,783	Sander	12/14/1993	
	CD	5,292,326	Green et al.	03/08/1994	
	CE	5,320,629	Noda et al.	06/14/1994	
	CF	5,320,629	B Noda et al.	05/02/2000	
	CG	5,342,376	Ruff	08/30/1994	
	CH	5,425,746	Proto et al.	06/20/1995	
	CI	5,425,747	Brotz	06/20/1995	
	CJ	5,450,860	O'Connor	09/19/1995	
	CK	5,500,991	Demarest et al.	03/26/1996	
	CL	5,533,982	Rizk et al.	07/09/1996	
CM	5,546,957	Heske	08/20/1996		
CN	5,584,859	Brotz	12/17/1996		
CO	5,702,462	Oberlander	12/30/1997		
CP	5,716,376	Roby et al.	02/10/1998		
CQ	5,722,991	Colligan	03/03/1998		
CR	5,931,855	Buncke	08/03/1999		
CS	6,012,216	Esteves et al.	01/11/2000		
CT	6,056,778	Grafton et al.	05/02/2000		
CU	6,163,948	Esteves et al.	12/26/2000		
CV	6,241,747	Ruff	06/05/2001		

Examiner Signature	<i>Danuser</i>	Date Considered	7.22.04
-----------------------	----------------	--------------------	---------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard St.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 If possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.



Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box →



PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)			Complete if Known		
			Application Number	10/065,278	
			Filing Date	September 30, 2002	
			First Named Inventor	Jeffrey C. Leung	
			Group Art Unit	3731	
Sheet	4	of	4	Examiner Name	
				Attorney Docket Number	013341-000021

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Documents			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T6
		Office ³	Number ⁴ Code ⁵	Kind (if known)				
60	CW	DE	4302895	A	Serag-Wiessner	08/04/1994		X
60	CX	DE	1810800		Metz	06/04/1970		X
60	CY	EP	1075843	A1	Sulamanidze et al.	02/14/2001		X
60	CZ	WO	00/5165		Sulamanidze et al.	09/08/2000		X

OTHER PRIOR ART—NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T2
60	DA	"Drilled End Surgical Needles", B.G. Sulzle, Inc., Syracuse, New York, July 2002.	X
60	DB	"Up Lifting (Aptos Threads)", http://www.ccpr.com.br/upl-l.htm , August 19, 2002, pp. 1-2.	X
60	DC	Sulamanidze et al., "Facial Lifting with "Aptos" Threads", http://www.fonendo.com , July 18, 2001, pp. 1-4.	X
60	DD	McKenzie, "An Experimental Multiple Barbed Suture for the Long Flexor Tendons of the Palm and Fingers", <u>The Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery</u> , Vol. 49B, No. 3, August 1967, pp. 440-447.	X
60	DE	Datillo et al., "Medical Textiles: Application of an Absorbable Barbed Bi-directional Surgical Suture", Vol. 2, Issue 2, <u>The Journal of Textile and Apparel Technology and Management</u> (Spring 2002).	

Examiner Signature	<u>Dawson</u>	Date Considered	7.21.04
-----------------------	---------------	--------------------	---------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Unique citation designation number. ²Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

RECEIVED
DEC 17 2002
TC 3700 MAIL ROOM